Renewable Energy, which is the nodal Ministry for the bio-fuel, does not have any scheme to produce bio-fuel from sweet corn.

(b) Does not arise.

Security of Gas Pipeline

4398. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the economic viability and security implications of the Indo-Iran Gas Pipeline Project have been examined by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government have taken in this regard to ensure safety from all angles including possibility of terrorist attack, accidents, sabotage, etc. before the said gas pipeline is laid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) Indian side had appointed Ernst & Young as the Financial Consultant and ILF, UK as the Technical Consultant for preparation of the pre feasibility report of Iran Pakistan India Pipeline Project.

The project has been found to be feasible. The price of gas against the alternate fuel prices will determine the economic viability of the pipeline project. Iran has given a formula for determining gas price at the Iran-Pakistan border. Two other issues namely Transportation Tariff and Transit Fee are under discussion between India and Pakistan. Once these issues are decided, the price of gas at Pakistan, India border would be known and then, a decision on the purchase of gas through Iran-Pakistan-India Pipeline Project will be taken. As per current indications, pipeline within Iran upto Iran-Pakistan Border will be laid and operated by an agency to be nominated by Iran. Iran has offered to sell gas at Iran-Pakistan Border and all responsibilities for the safety and security of the pipeline within Iran will vest with Iran. In the Pakistan Territory, out of 1035 KMs, 800 KMs pipeline will be carrying the gas for both Pakistan and India. The safety and security for the pipeline and gas within Pakistan would be provided by the Pakistan Government for which a Transit Fee would be levied. Discussions on all these issues are continuing.

It has been agreed that the pipeline proposed to be laid in Iran, Pakistan and India will be constructed as per the international standards incorporating all the safety features as per prescribed standards and specifications. It is envisaged to provide round-the-clock communication and supervisory control system all along the pipeline.

Subsidy for Kerosene and LPG

4399. SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of subsidy given for kerosene and LPG during the last three years by public sector oil marketing companies; and

(b) the quantum of subsidy given on the same account as budgetary support from the Finance Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The amount of under-recoveries suffered by public sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) in selling PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG during the last three Financial Years are given below:

Rs./Crore

Under-Recovery*	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (Provisional)
PDS Kerosene	9,480	14,384	17,883
Domestic LPG	8,362	10,246	10,701
Total	17,842	24,630	28,584

* Gross under-recoveries without considering refinery discount, oil bonds and upstream assistance,

(b) The amount of subsidy provided on PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG from the fiscal budget is given below: